

Friends of the Animal Shelter

the

# Scoop

Fall • 2015

Save the Date!

Historic Ashland Armory

PUSS 'N BOOTS

Saturday, October 24



Photos by Brooke Bell-Turner



*fotas*  
friends of the animal shelter

### Mission Statement

Our vision is for all adoptable animals at the Jackson Country Animal Shelter to find a loving home.

Our mission is to recruit and train volunteers who will save lives by increasing pet adoptions at the Jackson Country Animal Shelter, improve the quality of life for the Shelter's animals, promote spay and neuter, and facilitate outreach and educational activities about the humane treatment of companion animals throughout Jackson County.

Our values are:  
Service, Compassion  
and Generosity

PUSS 'N BOOTS

## Join us!

Get your costumes ready, prepare for a great time, and, most of all, support Friends of the Animal Shelter. More on page 3.

[www.fotas.org](http://www.fotas.org)

Like us on Facebook!  
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## PAWS TO CELEBRATE A GREAT SUCCESS

The 2nd Annual Paws to Celebrate dressy affair was enjoyed by 88 animal lovers at the Ashland Springs Hotel on June 19th. In addition to piano music by Ron Rosenthal and a delicious dinner, guests were invited to bid on



Photo: Brooke Bell-Turner

**Paws to Celebrate guests Beth Dolos and Lee Olson enjoyed their evening, and generously donated throughout the evening.**

silent and live auction items, and even have their picture taken with a "lucky dog" (Shelter alumnus) with professional photographer, Cornelius Mateo.

One of our favorite portions of the evening is "Fund-a-Need" — when donors generously lifted their bidder paddles and donated more than \$15,000. By the end of the evening, our guests and sponsors had contributed more than \$56,000 to help us find more loving homes for more animals, about \$5,000 more than 2014.

Many thanks to our generous friends and volunteers that made this evening a success. (See page 7.)



## Umpqua Bank's Coins for Kitties September Campaign Supports 2-Fur-1 Adoptions

The 2-Fur-1 feline adoption program is financed entirely by donations to FOTAS, including special fundraising efforts, such as the Umpqua Bank Coins for Kitties campaign held each September. The 2-Fur-1 program pays one adoption fee to the Shelter when two cats or kittens are adopted together into their new home. The adopter pays the other fee.

Coins for Kitties raises funds through the donation of spare change at any Umpqua Bank in the Rogue Valley throughout September. Bring your spare change to a container at any Umpqua Bank branch or the Jackson County Animal Shelter! You can also make a donation on-line at [fotas.org](http://fotas.org) or by sending a donation directly to FOTAS for the 2-Fur-1 program. Make the check payable to FOTAS, and send to: PO Box 92, Ashland, OR, 97520 with "2-Fur-1" written on the memo line.

**Meow means Thank You!**

Photos: Nancy Uravich-Freeland

PAWS FOR A CAUSE

SUNDAY, SEPT 20

9:30 am - 2:00 pm

1 and 2-mile routes through Hawthorne Park, the new Dog Parks, and Downtown Medford, with Pit Stops along the way.

See back of calendar insert for details on how to register ...



friends of the animal shelter

DOG WALK & FAIR

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### The Scoop Newsletter

**Issue 8-15**  
 Friends of the Animal Shelter's newsletter is published three times a year.

**Editors**  
 Jim Ormand  
 Leslie Huntington  
 Eliza Kauder

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 Business-card size ads are \$40.

**Submit Materials**  
 Submit newsletter articles and ads for the Winter, 2016, newsletter edition by January 5, 2015 to Jim Ormand,  
[fotased@charter.net](mailto:fotased@charter.net)  
 or  
 PO Box 92,  
 Ashland OR 97520.

### Jackson Co. Animal Shelter

**Shelter Manager**  
 Barbara Talbert

5595 South Pacific Highway  
 Phoenix, OR 97535  
 (between Talent and Phoenix)  
 541-774-6654

**Visiting and Adoption Hours**  
 Monday-Friday  
 11:00 am-4:00 pm  
 Saturday and Sunday  
 Noon-4:00 pm



## PUSS 'N BOOTS COSTUME BALL & AUCTION

October is just around the corner, and with it brings rain, cooler temperatures and a crisp feel to the air. It also brings "the Best Halloween Party in the Valley" — our 24th annual Puss 'n Boots Costume Ball & Auction at the Historic Ashland Armory, which raises funds to find homes for the animals at the Jackson County Animal Shelter.

**Join us on Saturday, October 24th for an evening of frolicking and fun starting at 6:00 pm.**

Tickets are still \$45.00 and include dinner and dessert catered by **Café Dejeuner**, and dancing to the tunes of **Bathroom Gin Serenaders**. **Spay/Neuter Your Pet (SNYP)** will again offer a no-host wine and beer bar, with money raised going directly to spaying and neutering non-Shelter animals throughout Jackson County (bringing down the number of animals surrendered to the Shelter).

Of course, we'll have fabulous items for bid in the silent and live auctions, plus an opportunity to donate toward our fabulous volunteer-supported programs that are saving lives at the Shelter.

Silent auction items include dinners and services, wine, beautiful one-of-a-kind items, pottery, and treasures in time for the holidays — with all money going to save lives.

Some of the Live Auction items include:

- A one-of-a-kind animal-themed quilt
- A one-week stay in beautiful Arcadia
- Dinner with veteran OSF actors
- A case of delicious wine

**And, what's a Halloween party without a costume contest? You are a creative and talent bunch of revelers, and we look forward to seeing what you come up with (individually or as a group) this year!**

Please come prepared to raise your bidder number during the DOG PADDLE portion of the evening to make a 100% deductible donation to support our mission of increasing pet adoption, improving the quality of life for our animals, promoting spay/neuter, and supporting our foster program. Programs include:

- The Pit Crew (specialty training for "bully breeds" — making them more adoptable)
- Project Street Dogs (spaying/neutering animals owned by homeless people)
- 2-Fur-1 kitty adoption (FOTAS pays for the 2nd adoption)
- Our new Playing for Life playgroups for dogs, which eliminates boredom for the dogs, and keeps them calm and ready for adoption

**Puss 'n Boots sells out every year, so get your tickets NOW. Tickets available:**

- On-line at [www.fotas.org](http://www.fotas.org)
- Paddington Station in Ashland

For more information, or to become an event Sponsor, please call Eliza at (541) 482-8172.



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happy endings!

Photo: Nancy Uravich-Freeland



Gus is proof that "there's no place like home."

**GUS (now CASH)** In May 2014, a 100 lb., 4-year-old American Bulldog/Mastiff mix, arrived at the Shelter as a stray. We named him Gus, and he was quickly adopted, but returned, then adopted again in July, but returned as a stray a year later in July 2015. He was adopted once more, but returned yet again. Seems Gus doesn't like kids or cats, but does like to get out of the yard!

Just as things were beginning to look bleak for Gus's chances of finding a permanent home, his original owner (pre-May 2014) saw a photo of him and came to the Shelter to claim him! Back in May 2014, he went out of town and left Gus (whose real name is Cash) to stay with a relative. When he returned, he was told a vague story that someone had stolen him. Unfortunately, he didn't check the Shelter.

Recently he decided it was time to get another dog, and came across Gus's photo online! Turns out his owner lives alone, has no cats or kids, and has a fenced yard that keeps Gus confined and safe. It just goes to show that dogs really are meant to end up in the right home!

Photo: Nancy Uravich-Freeland



Rocky took his time finding the right home ... with a FOTAS volunteer.

**ROCKY** Regal Rocky, a 3-year-old Tuxedo, waited patiently at the Shelter for almost three months, hoping for a new home. He is a friendly and funny boy; we took countless photos of him; posted videos; he was a Fabulous Featured Feline, and we talked him up all the time — to no avail.

Finally in August, a FOTAS volunteer who had recently lost the kitty she and her husband had loved for years, decided that funny Rocky was just the boy they wanted. After three days of ignoring his new family members, but carefully checking out the entire house, Rocky decided he was definitely home, and became the cuddle cat his new owners were hoping for.

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FOTAS volunteers showed that love heals all wounds, both emotional and physical.

**LEXI** In April 2015, Lexi entered the Shelter as a stray Lynx point cat in a trap. She had runny eyes, was flea infested, and her front paws had been declawed. She also limped and appeared to be in pain, which we found out was from two breaks in a leg that had not healed well.

The vet needed to amputate the leg to relieve the pain, but the cost was \$650, which is a lot for the Shelter to spend to save the life of one cat. Barbara Talbert, the Shelter Manager, put out a challenge to FOTAS — if we could contribute \$300 towards Lexi's surgery, the Shelter would pay the rest of her medical expenses. Thanks to the generosity of our volunteers and FOTAS Facebook friends, \$828 was donated by 23 donors, which meant there was money left over to help the next cat with a significant medical need.

Volunteers continued to care for Lexi after her surgery at the Shelter, making sure she got the rest she needed, and then helped her learn how to balance and walk on three legs, which she picked up quickly. Before the end of May, Lexi was healed, pain free and happily in her new home.



Photo: Brooke Bell-Turner


Tank convinced his new owners that he can play two roles — protector and lover boy!

**TANK** (now **BARNEY**) A big, strong, handsome, 3-year-old Pit Bull mix we named Tank entered the Shelter at the end of December 2014 as a stray. He was adopted, but quickly returned. He was adopted a month later by a young man and his father. Unfortunately, their house burned down and Tank went missing soon after. Two months later, he showed up at the Shelter again as a stray.

After a month, he was adopted to an older couple in Josephine County, looking for an "outside dog." Although that situation is not ideal for adoption, Tank needed out of the Shelter. His new owners have lots of property and they wanted a watch dog that would keep the deer away.

Well, it turns out that Tank (now Barney), is great at chasing deer, but ended up being a real "homebody" who sleeps inside, and quickly found a way into their hearts and home!

**Monthly Donors Save Lives!**  
*credit card or bank bill-pay*



More than 250 animals a month journey through the Jackson County Animal Shelter and are lovingly cared for by FOTAS volunteers & Shelter staff.

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**Anonymous**, in memory of "Sister Dear"  
**Heather Bailey**, in memory of Ash, our Shelter dog (2008)  
**Mardydee Bombick**, in appreciation for the two adult cats I adopted, who are helping me deal with the loneliness after my husband's death  
**Judith Borg**, in memory of Steven Strange  
**Pam and Jim Britton**, in loving memory of Alex Shepherd  
**Susan Brown**, in honor of Alex Shepherd, the cat whisperer, so his work may continue.  
**Georgette Clegg**, to take care of Lucky the cat  
**Mary Cotton**, for Lexi's surgery  
**Laurie Cuddy**, to support the Project Street Dogs program; and in memory of my beloved Cisco  
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## Introducing the 10,000 Friends Campaign

As we continue to celebrate our 25th year of service, Friends of the Animal Shelter is looking to expand its network of friends! Help **MAKE A DIFFERENCE** and save more lives at the Jackson County Animal Shelter by becoming a regular donor.

We have enclosed a 10,000 Friends envelope — we hope you'll use it!  
Programs that your support makes possible....



### **DOGS! Walkers, Play Groups, The Pit Crew and Enrichment**

Skilled volunteers exercise, train, and cuddle adoptable dogs every day of the week at the Jackson County Animal Shelter as they await their new homes. Regular play groups, using the **DOGS PLAYING FOR LIFE** model, a nationally-acclaimed program designed specifically for shelter dogs to reduce boredom and increase positive interaction with other dogs, makes them more adoptable. **THE PIT CREW** devotes their efforts toward Pitties and bully breeds, including behavioral training and stimulation. This helps manage kennel stress and keeps them adoptable. And since dogs get bored in their kennels between walks or at night, volunteers create stimulating and nutritional treats for dogs every day, like Kongs filled with yummy treats.

### **CATS! Whiskerville, Kitty Korner and Cuddling**

Free-roaming environments for cats encourage interaction with other felines and humans (including cuddlers), with lots of stimulation, fresh air, and places to hunker down and nap. Happy cats are adoptable cats!

### **MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

FOTAS covers more than \$35,000 of preventative and restorative medical treatments for cats and dogs, making the animals more comfortable and saving lives.

### **ADOPTION OUTREACH**

Sometime people don't feel comfortable in the Shelter environment, so Friends of the Animal Shelter volunteers take adoptable pets "off-site" to adoption events in partnership with sponsors like PetSmart, Grange Co-op Pet Country, and Ashland Ace Hardware. Lots of pets find their new homes at an outreach event.

### **PROJECT STREET DOGS**

This is a new initiative to support local homeless citizens with animals by providing leashes, collars, food and free spay/neuter services. This helps keep the animals healthy and safe, while preventing unplanned litters.

### **SPAY & NEUTER INITIATIVE**

Preventing unwanted litters is our first line of defense. Jackson County Animal Shelter is a spay/neuter-before-adoption facility, which ultimately reduces Shelter populations. Friends of the Animal Shelter also provides financial support to Spay/Neuter Your Pet (SNYP) and their low-cost spay/neuter campaigns for non-Shelter pets throughout the year.